

## Meeting Minutes

-- [Substance Abuse Policy Committee Meeting November 15, 2005](#)

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### **CE School Board**

#### **Substance Abuse Policy Subcommittee**

Meeting Minutes- November 15, 2005

Members Present: Mary Cox, Heather Furman, (SAC), Katie Lisa, Keith Weatherbie, Trish Brigham, Anne Belden, Elaine Moloney, Alan Hawkins, Mark Dorval, Mark Tinkham, Jeff Shedd, Rick Madden.

Meeting began at 8:00AM

Minutes from last meeting were amended. In the section dealing with proposed consequences, first offense with self-referral, should read "when a season has fewer than 10 games".

Discussion:

Jeff shared a draft of a document he had prepared which reflected his thoughts on the policy including some overarching attributes, what activities should be covered and possible disciplinary actions.

The Committee used this document as a framework for discussion. Conversation began with philosophical aspects of policy. The students questioned what that was. From their perspective, many students view the policy as more punitive in nature. Committee voiced that prime goal was to help kids make good decisions, keep them safe, teach them to assume responsibility for their actions and to assist students who may have substance abuse issues. The overriding philosophy is included in JICH.

Keith shared an article about problems in Winthrop Maine, around teen suicides. The article mentioned that substance abuse might be one of contributing causes. Also mentioned that based on a survey of the students, parents are tolerant of the abuse. This led to discussion of what issues are specific to Cape. Mark mentioned that there were instances when parents were around and substance abuse was taking place. Largest problem in Cape is with alcohol.

One problem is kids crashing parties, particularly when parents may be absent. Mark Dorval mentioned a new program that the Police Dept. is introducing which allows parents who are away to alert police to that fact and designate a contact person.

Alan mentioned that he felt that prevention/education was a weak link in the school system. Several suggestions were made about how to address ie. A Chewonki/Kieve type program at the high school, more guidance resources, Cape Coalition programs,

programs involving parents. Most Committee members agreed in concept that this area could be strengthened but acknowledged the financial challenges involved.

The committee continued through Jeff's document, making some changes. The committee agreed that the two policies being discussed should be streamlined and includes both philosophy and disciplinary aspects. A separate policy will be drafted for tobacco.

The Committee was provided with summaries of substance abuse policies from surrounding communities as reference.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35AM.

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 15 @ 8AM. Topic to be discussed is contract length- seasonal or for entire school year.

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